

My research has focussed on the physiological basis of seed vigour and its application in evaluation of seed quality. This has resulted in the development of three different vigour tests that are validated by the International Seed Testing Association and used in many parts of the world on commercial seeds of field, legume and vegetable crops.

I am an honorary member of staff at the University of Aberdeen. I graduated as BSc and PhD at the University of Stirling and was awarded a DSc from that university in recognition of the contribution of my research to the understanding and application of seed physiology.

I have been a member of the ISTA Vigour Committee since 1995 and Chair since 2001, I am Chair of the ISTA Seed Science Advisory Group, and was the Convenor of the ISTA Seed Symposium from 2002 to 2013. I was a member of the ISTA Executive Committee from 2007 – 2013 and made an Honorary Member of ISTA in 2013.